MINISTRY OF HEALTH
1 NOV 1951

PRESTATYN
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

Dr. R. Rhydwen, D.S.C., M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

TOGETHER WITH THE

Annual Report of the Sanitary Inspector

Mr. I. WYNN JONES, M.S.I.A.

Cert. Meat and other Foods.

FOR THE YEAR 1950.

Arthur Williams & Co., High Street, Prestatyn. Tel. 156.

HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1950

Coun. J. R. Gilbert (Chairman)

Coun. Mrs. Eleanor Evans J.P.
,, E. T. Williams A.C.P.
,, Mrs. E. E. Jackson
,, Owen Jones, J.P.

Coun. J. M. Pritchard
,, E. O. Jones
,, Mrs B. H. Shepherd
,, N. Stewart

Coun. A. Nuttall

Chairman of the Council: Coun. Owen Jones, J.P.

Staff of the Public Health Department—

Medical Officer of Health:

DR. R. RHYDWEN, D.S.C., M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector: Meat & Food Insp.:

I. WYNN JONES, M.S.I.A., Cert. Meat & Food Insp.

General Assistant:

J. E. PARRY.

Clerk:

R. B. JONES.

Meteorological Officer:

T. GRANT.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1950

To the Chairman and Members of the
Prestatyn Urban District Council.

I beg to submit my report for the year 1950 for your consideration.

The general health of the district has been good; Infectious Diseases Cases were more numerous, there being 141 cases in 1950 as compared with 93 in 1949, the rise being due to an increase in the number of cases of measles.

Diphtheria Immunisation figures improved during 1950, 80 children being immunised and 25 receiving reinforcing doses.

This was an improvement on 1949, when only 59 were immunised.

The County Health Clinic commenced immunisation in the latter part of the year and 20 children received their immunisation doses there.

For the second consecutive year an outbreak of food poisoning occured in the town. This outbreak, in which the vehicle of infection was meat, was found to be due to staphylococcal toxin, the cause of the infection being staphylococcal germs from a small unprotected cut on the proprietor's hand.

Early in the year the film "Another Case of Food Poisoning" was exhibited to members of the

catering trade. The attendance was disappointing though the audience present was enthusiastic over the points made in the film.

I would again stress the need for scrupulous cleanliness and attendance to personal hygiene amongst all food handlers. A serious outbreak of food poisoning could do untold harm to a holiday resort.

Statistics

As was to be expected owing to the high percentage of elderly people living in the town, our death rate was higher than the average for the country, and our birth rate lower than the average for the country.

A great improvement occured in the Infantile Mortality Rate, it being 34 4 per 1,000 live births, as compared with 60 5 per 1,000 live births in 1949. Nevertheless the rate is still above that for England and Wales as a whole, which is 29 8 per 1,000 living births.

All four infant deaths occured in hospital, while undergoing treatment, two being due to bronchopneumonia and two to severe congenital defects.

Elderly People and Elderly Sick People.

Difficulty is experienced in finding hospital accommodation for the elderly chronic sick. This is a nation-wide problem, due mainly to the shortage of nursing staff, and I regret to state that I see no immediate prospect for improvement.

The opening of more Homes for Aged Persons by the Flintshire County Council should alleviate the position in regard to the accommodation of aged and infirm persons.

Housing

During the year, the ten houses reported last year as being under construction were completed thus making a total of 174 houses at Bryn Rhosyn. Six houses have been built at Dawson Park. Of 26 houses under construction at Maes Hendre, Meliden (formerly Wooller's Estate), 24 had been completed by the end of the year.

The total number of completed houses owned by the Council at the end of the year was as follows:—

Caradoc Terrace, Prestatyn	...	15
Dawson Park ,,	...	72
Bryn Rhosyn ,,	...	174
Ffordd Bryn Melyd and Isfryn Road, Meliden ...	...	44
Maes Hendre, Meliden	...	24
		329

204 of these houses have been built since the war.

Last year I referred to the necessity of acquiring additional land before any more houses could be built and to the decision of the Council to make application to the Welsh Board of Health for approval to a site in Fforddisa, Prestatyn, which could accommodate 100 houses. This proposal was abandoned during the year and negotiations were in hand for the acquisition of land to form an extension to the site at Maes Hendre.

Tenders had been received in connection with the works necessary to bring the 15 houses in Caradoc Terrace up to present day standards. These houses were built in 1913 and are without bathrooms or hot water systems. The scheme includes provision of these items and also improvements to the kitchens and provision of a store shed.

The list of applicants for housing still remains heavy and shows no sign of easing. The addit onal applications received each year exceeds the number of houses built. It can be said that the majority of applicants living under very bad conditions have now been housed and the remainder are receiving due consideration.

Some of the hutments at the Hillside Camp, Prestatyn, are still occupied and the Council is pursuing the policy of re-housing these tenants as opportunity arises and demolishing the huts as they become vacant.

Three new houses were completed by private enterprise during the year under licences issued during 1949. No licenses were issued during 1950.

o o o

All our essential services have been carefully supervised as you will note from the report, and the standard of milk and ice cream production has been most satisfactory.

Appended are the Reports of the Sanitary Inspector. the Inspector under the Food and Drugs Act and the Climatology readings as taken by Mr Grant.

My Report would not be complete without an expression of thanks to the Health Committee for their keen interest, activity and co-operation and to the Sanitary Inspector and Staff of the Public Health Department for their keeness and unflagging energy in tackling the problems which arose during the year. To the Clerk and all my colleagues on the Council staff I express my gratitude for their helpful co-operation.

I remain,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

R. RHYDWEN.

Water Supply

Very little trouble has been experienced with the operation of the chlorination plant. Four reports on chlorinated water were unsatisfactory, all others being Class I highly satisfactory. One of the unsatisfactory samples was due to faulty technique in sampling and the other three were due to underdosing with chlorine.

The number submitted during the year was :—

(a)	Raw Water.	0
(b)	Filtered Water	0
(c)	Filtered and Chlorinated Water	57.

The result of a sample sent for Chemical Analysis is also appended.

New mains were laid at Dawson Park, Prestatyn and Maes Hendre, Meliden, for Council housing developments. Practically all houses in the area are supplied from the mains.

Number of dwelling houses served by public mains direct to house...	3089
Population of above dwelling houses	9716
Number of dwelling houses served by public mains by means of stand pipes	22
Population of above dwelling houses	79

Four houses occupied by fourteen persons are supplied by wells, springs, etc.

CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS

Samples of water received on 24th October, 1950, marked Routine, Main Supply at 36, Dawson Park.

In Parts per 100,000 of Water.	
Total solid matter in solution ...	36.00
Nitrogen in Nitrates	0.02
Nitrites	Nil.
Chlorine in Chlorides	2 00
Ogygen absorbed from Permanganate in 4 Hours at 80 deg. F. ...	0 032
Free and Saline Ammonia	Nil.
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.003
Lead, Copper, Zinc	Nil.
Microscopical Examination of the sediment	Nil.
Temporary hardness in degrees Clark	13.6
Permanent Hardness in degrees Clark	2.8
pH Value	7.2

The above Chemical analysis is very satisfactory.
The water is moderately hard.

(Signed) HAROLD LOWE, M.Sc., F.R.I.C.,
Public Analyst.

Sewerage

The sewerage scheme for the area, excluding Meliden, consists of a gravity scheme on the higher levels to which sewage is raised by Ejectors from the low lying areas, and the whole of the sewage is discharged untreated into the sea. The system has worked satisfactorily during the year. There is also a pumping station serving Y Ffrith which has operated satisfactorily.

Meliden Sewerage is also partly on the gravity system and partly pumped. The sewage is purified at a disposal works and discharged into a watercourse. The system is satisfactory.

The surface water sewerage system is separate from the foul water system and is satisfactory except during abnormal rainfall, when a small amount of flooding occurs, largely due to the unsatisfactory state of land drainage south of the main railway line.

No major alteration or additions have been carried out during the year; necessary repairs and alterations, due to wear and tear have received attention.

Prestatyn Gutter

Following works in 1948 the condition of the gutter is much improved and in spite of quite heavy rainfall there has been no serious flooding. Work remains to be done in regard to some tributaries to the gutter on the South side in order to prevent waterlogging of adjoining lands.

Food Supplies

Careful supervision has been maintained over the premises of retailers, especially those of Butchers, Bakeries and Dairies. For number of inspections, see Sanitary Inspector's report. All meat sold in the area is killed and inspected at the Public Abattoir, Rhyl.

The need for the greatest care in the preparation and handling of cooked meats, pies and pastries has been brought home even more forcibly by a small outbreak of food poisoning. Inspection of premises has revealed a high standard of cleanliness in most premises and the department's advice has been readily accepted when tendered.

Food Poisoning Outbreaks

Number of outbreaks	...	...	...	2
Number of cases	...	...	...	17
Number of deaths	...	...	...	0

Organism or other agents responsible: (1) Staphylococcal toxin, (2) Unknown.

Food involved: (1) Cooked Meat, (2) Unknown.

National Assistance Act, 1948

No formal action was taken under Section 47 of this Act during the year.

Refuse Collection and Disposal

The collection of refuse can now be regarded as satisfactory,

A heavy strain is placed on the service during the summer months due to the influx of visitors, and the occupation of camps.

The need for additional land for refuse disposal which had been known for some years is now an urgent necessity. It is to be hoped that the negotiations now in progress will result in the acquisition of the necessary land.

Swimming Pools

There are two privately owned public pools. Samples of water are taken regularly during the season and are mainly satisfactory.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

Laboratory Facilities

These remain unchanged.

Pathological and bacteriological examinations of discharges, throat swabs, etc., are done at the Ministry of Health Laboratory, Conway. During 1950 they numbered 177. Samples of water were despatched for bacteriological examination. Venereal swabs and blood requiring examination for venereal diseases are sent by the patients' doctors to the laboratory of the Chester Royal Infirmary.

Ambulance Service

Infectious cases are removed to hospital by Ambulance which is afterwards disinfected and all cases of illness or accident are removed by the County Ambulance Service, the County having acquired the duty of the provision of an Ambulance Service since July, 1948. The County Council also supervises the Sitting Case Car Service.

Home Nursing

This is now a County Council Service, the Queen's Nurses being under the direction of the County Health Services.

Home Help

There is one Home Help available in this district. Further particulars can be obtained from the County Health Office, Mold.

Clinics

Ante-Natal and Child Welfare Clinics are under the control of the County Medical Officer of Health. Infant Welfare Centre held at the Prestatyn School Clinic, Kings Avenue, every Friday 1-30 to 4-30 p.m. A Medical Officer attends every first and third Friday.

Orthopaedic Clinic at the Old Emmanuel School, Rhyl every first and third Friday mornings 10-30 to 12-30 Orthopaedic Nurse attends every session. Surgeon attends every two months.

Ante-Natal Clinic at Prestatyn School Clinic, Kings Avenue, first and third Friday, 9-30 a.m.

The Tuberculosis Clinic, in charge of the Medical Officers of the Welsh Regional Board is held at 27 Edward Henry Street, Rhyl, every Friday at 10 a m.

Free Hospital, Sanatorium, Clinical and Domiciliary treatment is available to all persons suffering from tuberculosis by arrangements made with the Welsh Regional Board.

Venereal Disease

Treated at the Chester Royal Infirmary and St. Asaph General Hospital (Out Patients Departments). All forms of venereal disease are examined and treated under conditions of strict secrecy. Cost of travelling to the Infimary is paid, if patients cannot afford to do so. The tracing of contacts and the follow up of defaulters

is undertaken by the County Medical Officer's Department. The Clinic at St. Asaph General Hospital is held on Tuesdays, from 5.15 p.m. to 7.15 p.m.

Hospitals

There are none in the Urban Area

Infections cases are treated at the Hawarden or Colwyn Bay Isolation Hospitals.

Notification of Births, Maternity & Child Welfare

This service is entirely under the control of the Flintshire County Council and their health visitors.

Maternity Facilities

There are two private Maternity Homes in the area, and one, Chatsworth House, under the control of the Flintshire County Council.

There are four registered midwives practising in the area.

Opthalmia Neonatorum

No cases have been reported during the year.

Scabies

No cases have been notified during the year.

Tuberculosis

For number of new cases, etc., see Table II.

No action required to be taken under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations 1926 (relating to persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis employed in the milk trade) or under Section 172 of the

Public Health Act, 1936 (relating to the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from Tuberculosis)

The aftercare of persons suffering from Tuberculosis is dealt with by a special Committee, who meet quarterly to consider the needs, financial or otherwise of each individual case.

All patients are visited in their homes by specially appointed nurses under direction of the County Medical Officer and Tuberculosis Physician.

All dwellings are disinfected as and when required. A register is kept of all cases in the area.

Zymotic Diseases

The number notified during the year was 141 (see Table 1) Of these 11 received treatment at Isolation Hospitals. Care is taken to see that all necessary disinfection of premises and clothing is carried out.

Immunisation

The above service was inaugurated in June, 1940. During the current year 80 children were treated, 70 of whom were under 5 years of age, and 10 between 5 and 14. In addition 26 children received reinforcing doses.

Since 1940, 1826 children have been immunised.

Diphtheria Toxoid (A.P.T. & T.A.F.) are always available to Medical Practitioners at the Public Health Dept. Council Offices.

Immunisation can be done by the Child's own doctor, or at The Welfare Clinic, Victoria Avenue every fourth Wednesday in each month, 2 to 3.30 p.m.

Rag Flock Act, 1911—1928

No action necessary.

Public Places of Entertainment

As required by Ministry of Health Circular 120/1920, all places of entertainment requiring Singing, Music and Dancing licences have been inspected for fire fighting apparatus, exits, general cleanliness, conveniences, etc., and except for minor defects, found to be satisfactory.

Smoke Abatement

There has been no cause for complaint during the year. The local Steam Laundry is the only industry in the area, but by co-operation with the owners the smoke nuisance is reduced to a minimum.

Schools

Are under the control of the County Council Authority. The Heads of Schools are immediately notified of any cases of infections diseases occuring amongst the scholars or in their homes.

Lodging Houses

The are no Common Lodging Houses within the district.

GENERAL STATISTICS & SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Social Conditions

The district is purely urban, and as a seaside resort its chief interest is the catering for and entertainment of visitors. There is a large amount of residential property which would have greatly increased but for

building restrictions during the war. The population largely consists of retired people.

Two Limestone Quarries are operating in the area. Unemployment is practically nil.

Area (in acres)	3,655
Population (Census 1910)	4,083
,, ,, 1931	4,511
Estimated population Mid 1950...	8,699
Estimated number of inhabited houses 1921 ...	770
,, ,, ,, ,, (1931 ...	1,579
,, ,, ,, ,, 1933 ...	1,590
Rateable value	£80,990
Sum represented by a 1d. rate	£324

VITAL STATISTICS

Birth Rate

The number of births registered was 110.

		M	F	Total
Births	Legitimate	59	40	110
	Illegitimate	7	4	

giving a rate per 1,000 population of 12.6, compared with the rate for England & Wales which is 15.8.

Deaths of infants under 1 year of age were 4, giving a rate of 36.4 per 1,000 of the registered live births.

For England and Wales the figure was 29.8.

Still Births

Total 2 Males 2, Females 0, one being illegitimate, giving a rate per 1000 civilian population of 0.23, as compared with 0 39 for England and Wales

Death Rate

The total number of deaths of residents belonging to the area was 169. The number of deaths of residents and non-residents registered by the local Registrar was 115. To this there has to be added 62 deaths of residents who died outside the area and 8 deaths subtracted, being those of non-residents who died within the area, giving a corrected number of 169, which on the civilian population of 8659 gives a crude death rate per 1,000 population of 19.3. Our rate corrected for comparative purposes is 12.74. For England & Wales the rate is 11 6.

The outstanding feature is that 47 deaths were those of people over 70 and under 80 years of age, 39 over 80 and under 90 and 6 over 90.

Heart diseases accounted for 61, Intracranial vascular diseases for 28, Cancer for 25, all essentially diseases of elderly people. Puerperal causes, nil, Measles nil. Deaths from all causes of tuberculosis, 6.

For causes of death see Table iii.

Cemetery

There have been 69 interments in Coed Bell Cemetery during 1950 as compared with 69 in 1949.

Protestants—75
Catholics—4
Common Grave—1

I am,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) R. RHYDWEN,
Medical Officer of Health.

TABLE I.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR 1950.

Disease.	At all Ages	Under 1 year	1—2	3—4	5—9	10—14	15—44	45—64	Over 65	Cases admitted to Hospital
Scarlet Fever	10	...	...	2	8	...	...	...	...	5
Diphtheria (Obs.)	—	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..
Erysipelas	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	1
Whooping Cough	6	...	...	1	5	...	...	...	...	...
Measles	81	2	10	24	36	4	3	2	...	1
Lobar Pneumonia	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...
Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Food Poisoning	17	...	...	...	...	...	3	8	6	4
Dysentery	19	...	...	...	7	12	...	...	...	...
Total	141	2	10	27	56	16	6	12	12	11

TABLE II.

TUBERCULOSIS—New Cases and Mortality during 1950.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	...
1...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
15...	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
20...	1	...	...	..	...	...	...	...
25...	2	...	...	...	2	1	...	...
35...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
45...	1	1	...	...	1	1	...	...
55...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...
65 & upw'd	...	2	...	...	...	1	...	...
	7	5	1	...	5	3	...	...

CASES ON REGISTER

	Males		Females		
	Pulm.	Non-Pulm.	Pulm.	Non-Pulm.	Total
Dec. 31st, 1949	73	9	29	3	114
Dec. 31st, 1950	75	10	31	3	119

TABLE III.—Causes of Deaths

during the year 1950

	Males	Females	Total
Cerebro and Spinal Fever ...	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever	0	0	0
Whooping Cough	0	0	0
Tuberculosis (Pulmonary) ...	4	2	6
Tuberculosis (other)	0	0	0
Syphilis	0	0	0
Influenza	1	0	1
Other Infective	1	0	1
Cancer :			
Lung & Bronchus	1	0	1
Stomach, etc.	2	8	10
Breast	0	1	1
Other Sites	11	11	22
Diabetes	0	0	0
Intra.-cran: Vasc: Lesions ...	8	20	28
Heart diseases	29	32	61
Other Circulatory Diseases ...	0	5	5
Bronchitis	6	4	10
Pneumonia	1	3	4
Other Respiratory Diseases ...	0	0	0
Ulcer of Stomach	2	0	2
Diarrhœa (under 2 years) ...	2	0	2
Hyperplasia of Prostrate ...	1	0	1
Other Digestive Diseases ...	0	0	0
Nephritis	1	1	2
Premature Birth	0	0	0
Congenital Malformation, etc. ...	1	0	1
Suicide	0	1	1
Other violent causes	2	0	2
Other causes	3	4	7
Road Traffic Accident	0	1	1
TOTAL ...	76	93	169

TABLE IV.—Infant Mortality,

During the Year 1950

Nett Deaths from stated causes at various Ages under One Year of Age.

Cause of Death	Under 1 Week	1-2 Weeks	2-3 Weeks	3-4 Weeks	1-3 Months	3-6 Months	6-9 Months	9-12 Months	Total Deaths under 1 Year
All Causes { Certified									
All Causes { Uncertified									
Small Pox									
Chicken Pox									
Measles									
Scarlet Fever									
Whooping Cough									
Diphtheria and Croup ...									
Erysipelas									
Tuberculosis Meningitis ...									
Abdominal Tuberculosis ...									
Other Tuberculous Diseases ...									
Meningitis not Tuberculosis ...									
Convulsions									
Laryngitis									
Bronchitis									
Pneumonia (all forms) ...							1	1	2
Diarrhœa									
Enteritis									
Gastritis									
Syphillis									
Rickets									
Suffocation, overlying ...									
Injury at Birth									
Atelectasis									
Congenital Malformations ...					1	1			2
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...									
Premature Birth									
Atrophy, Debility, and Marasmus									
Other causes									
Total	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	4

Total Births in the Year:—110. Males, 66; Females, 44.
Legitimate Males 59, Legitimate Females 40.
Illegitimate Males 7. Illegitimate Females 4.

ADULTERATION, ETC.

Food and Drugs Act

Your Inspector under this Act has reported as follows :—

Herewith are the particulars of the samples taken under the Food and Drugs Act 1938, in the Prestatyn Urban District Council area, during the year ending December 31st, 1950 :—

Description of Article	Number of Samples taken	Genuine	Not Genuine or below standard
Milk	18	14	4
Ice Cream	4	4	
Sausages	6	5	1
Beer	2	2	
Tripe	1	1	
Meat Pies	2	2	
Pressed Meat	1	1	
Jelly Powder	1	1	
Trifle	1	1	
Bronchial Mixture ...	1	1	
Flour	1	1	
Cakes	2	2	
Jam	1	1	
Vegetable Soup ...	2	2	
Brawn	1	1	
Blood Purifier	1	1	
Beef Suet	1	1	
Sweets....	2	2	
Tomato Soup	1	1	
Pepper....	1	1	
Total	50	45	5

The sample of beef sausages reported as not being genuine was 11 per cent deficient in meat. Legal proceedings were instituted and the defendant fined £5 and £4 costs.

The four milk samples reported as not being genuine were low in milk solids and the attention of the producers was drawn to the matter.

(Signed) E. LEWIS.

Food and Drugs Inspector.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT FOR 1950

General Summary of Visits, Etc.

General Sanitation

Water Supply	66
Drainage	472
Stables, Piggeries, etc.	59
Fried Fish Shops	34
Camps, etc.	156
Factories and Workshops	85
Bakehouses	107
Public Conveniences...	128
Rats and Mice	297
Schools	11
Watercourses	110
Special Visits re Housing	248
Visits under Section 47, Nat. Ast. Act	65
Verminous Premises	88
Miscellaneous Visits	210
Complaints received and investigated	285
Number of Nuisances abated	680
Number of Preliminary notices served for nuisances	716
Formal notices for nuisances	0

Infectious Disease

Number of cases occuring	141
Enquiries	76
Number removed to Hospital	11
Disinfection	113

Meat & Food Inspection

Butchers Shops	52
Fishmongers	27
Grocers	86
Ice Cream Premises...	126
Food Preparing Premises	52

Sanitary Defects etc.

Number of stopped drains	286
Number of defective drains	17
Choked or insanitary ditches	11

Number of defective septic tanks	8
Defective W.C. cisterns and fittings	19
Defective E.C. and W.C.	3
Dirty condition of houses, outhouses and yards	6
Animals etc, kept under insanitary conditions	5
Want of Lime Washing	10
Defective inspection chambers	5
Defective sink and wastepipes	28
Burst Water Pipes	5
Defective Roofs	8
Defective Floors	4
Defective Pavings	7
Defective eaves and downspouts	16
Defective doors	5
Defective windows	11
Defective sinks and washbasins	7
Insufficient W.C. accommodation	3
Accumulaion of Refuse	16
Dilapidated dust bins	106
Defective wall and ceiling plaster	13
Dampness	5
Defective Grates	4
Infestations by insect pests	48
Defective Chimneys	3
Insufficient water supply	6
Rat & Mice infestations	59
Miscellaneous	38

Nuisances from premises other than dwellings

Halls	15
Farms & Dairies	11
Camps & Caravans	14
Cafes	13
Offices	10
Shops	34
Schools	5
Bakeries	7
Hotels	13
Warehouses	7
Garages	5
Laundry	5
Fried Fish Shops	8
Miscellaneous	21

Refuse Collection and Disposal

Number of visits re Collection and Salvage	110
Number of visits re Disposal	119

The refuse is disposed of by Controlled Tipping and is collected by two Karrier Bantam Lorries drawing trailers for salvage collection.

Considerable time and labour has been expended to ensure a tidy tip. The rat populaton is almost non-existent, but small infestations at harvest time, etc., are dealt with as they arise.

The department endeavours to collect refuse once a week from private houses and more frequently from business premises as necessary, this is not always possible, especially during the summer months when the same staff has to cope with a greatly increased amount of refuse and salvage.

Householders can help to keep the service regular by disposing of garden refuse themselves and by keeping waste paper separate for salvage.

It is hoped that when the lorries are renewed larger ones will be purchased, thus cutting down the number of journeys to the disposal point and effecting a saving in travelling time.

The provision of more land for tipping purposes becomes more urgent every year, and we are now working under very difficult conditions.

It is to be hoped that negotiations for acquisition of more land will be successful next year so that our "tip mountain" can be bulldozed to the level of the adjacent land.

A word of praise and thanks must go to the refuse collectors for their loyalty and cheerfulness in carrying out—often under difficulties—a very dull and dirty job in all weather.

Sick leave taken by the refuse staff during the year totalled 131 days.

2015 loads weighing 4872 tons were collected and disdosed of, also, 26 nightsoil pails are serviced each week.

No charge is made for disposal of refuse by private persons at the refuse tip.

Total tonnage refuse collected	4872
Total tonnage refuse disposed of	5574
Area in acres	3655
Population	8699
Number of premises...	3527
Rateable valne	£80990
Product of 1d. in £	£324
General Rate in £	18s. 6d.

Salvage

	Tons	Cwts	Qrs	Lbs		£	s.	d.
Mixed Paper ...	103	12	0	17	...	553	9	4
Mags. and Books ...	6	4	3	2	...	50	4	6½
White Paper ...	4	11	1	10	...	44	8	1
Rags	5	12	1	0	...	69	12	1
Bones	2	13	2	0	...	15	4	7½
Scrap Iron ...	3	1	1	0	...	4	11	10½
Mixed Metal ...		6	3	4	...	4	1	5
String		2	3	10	...		11	4½
Tyres		7	0	0	...		7	0
Jars (700 dozen)					...	11	13	4
	126	11	3	15	...	£754	4	4
Salvage 1949 ...	132	1	3	12	...	£851	12	1

I cannot emphasize too strongly the continued necessity for salvaging waste paper. The amount salvaged shows a marked decrease after the end of the war, whilst the need is just as great. The biggest drop in collection is from private houses.

Water Sampling

	Bacteriological	Chemical
Town Main supply....	25	1
Holywell R.D.C. ...	11	0
Private Supply Wells, etc. ...	4	0
Streams	2	0
Swimming Pools ...	27	0
Total samples taken...	69	1

In general the Bacteriological reports on the main supplies have been Class 1. Highly satisfactory.

The reports of the Chemical examinations are also satisfactory.

The samples from Streams were a check on possible fouling by septic tank effluents, the results were satisfactory for stream water.

Regular samples are taken from the two Swimming Pools during the season and the results are generally satisfactory.

Milk Supplies

Number of Samples taken of each grade

Pasteurised	14
Tuberculin Tested	40
Accredited	28
Ungraded	40
Total	122

Results of Examinations

	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Tuberculin Tested ...	37 ...	... 3
Accredited	25 ...	... 3
Pasteurised	14 ...	... 0
Ungraded	38 ...	... 2

Number of farms producing milk within the district ...	7
Tuberculin tested	2
Accredited	1
Ungraded	4

The milk producers and retailers are to be congratulated on these results. The samples are taken monthly, so the results show a continued attention to clean milk production methods throughout the year.

Milk Licenses

Dealers Licenses—	Tuberculin tested	4
	Pasteurised	4
	Sterilized	5
Supplementary Licenses—	Tuberculin tested ...	3
	Pasteurised	2
	Sterilized	1
Milk Distributors on Register—	... ...	9
Visits to Dairies and Milk shops	....	115

Biological Testing.

No Samples were taken for Biological Testing owing to difficulties at the Laboratory.

Fried Fish Shops

Number of Fried Fish shops in District 5
These shops are well conducted and are inspected periodically.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938. Section 14

Premises registered for the manufacture and sale of Ice Cream 5
Premises for sale only 36
Premises for manufacture of sausages, cooked meat etc. 15

Ice Cream

Fifty-two samples of this commodity were taken during the season and the results are as follows :—

Grade I	... ...	29
Grade II	... ...	19
Grade III	... ...	2
Grade IV	... ...	2

Those in Grade I and II can be regarded as satisfactory.

These results are satisfactory and they go to show the keen interest taken by the manufacturers and vendors to serve the public with a clean and wholesome article of food.

Meat & other Food Inspection

All the town's Meat supply is slaughtered and inspected at the Rhyl Municipal Abattoir.

Other foods, canned goods etc., are inspected as necessary and the following is a list of unsound food condemned in shops.

Fats	758lbs.
Fish	163lbs.
Meat	208lbs.
Milk and Milk Products	92lbs.
Soups....	26lbs.
Vegetables, Fruit	1087lbs,
Miscellaneous	70lbs.

Bakehouses and other food premises are inspected periodically and any nuisances are quickly remedied, on the occupiers notice being drawn to them

Factories, Workshops and Workplaces

1—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	48	91		
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authorities				
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)				
TOTAL	48	91	Nil	Nil

2—CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found			Number of cases in which prosecutions where instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness	16	16		
Overcrowding				
Unreasonable temperature ...				
Inadequate ventilation ...				
Ineffective drainage of floors...				
Sanitary Conveniences				
(a) insufficient				
(b) unsuitable or defective ...	21	21		
(c) not separate for sexes ...	1	1		
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)				
TOTAL	38	38	Nil	Nil

Rodent Infestation

The duties of the Rodent Officer are carried out by the General Assistant in the Health Department.

The sewers are testbaited twice a year and their population is very small.

Small infestations, chiefly backyard poultry keepers, are dealt with as they arise.

The refuse tip and sewage works are treated regularly and there is no "resident" rat population.

The residents of Prestatyn are very rat conscious and are extremely good at carrying out the Ministry exhortation of "Report that Rat".

The disinfestation service is free to householders and a small charge is made for work done on business premises.

With the coming into force of the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949, a complete survey was carried out of all agricultural land and action was taken as found necessary.

Camps

There are three licensed camping sites and one Caravan Club site within the district, each is serviced by water closets connected to the main sewer. They are very well conducted and the owners co-operate to the full with this department in keeping the sites clean and tidy.

Several fields are let off for camping during the season, and are exempt from licensing under Sub-Section 2 of Sec 269 Public Health Act 1936.

These are inspected during the season and generally are maintained in good condition.

Talacrce Warren

There are 78 hutments within the district, 25% of which are permanently occupied. The remainder are occupied during the summer months only.

This district is not sewered and nightsoil is disposed of by chemical closets. There is no nuisance in this respect.

The water supply is part of the Holywell R.D.C. supply and during the peak periods of the summer months the supply is not always adequate.

Public Conveniences

The town has six Public Conveniences (Male and Female) and they are maintained by this Department.

I regret having to report that while every effort is made to keep them clean, they are often sadly misused by the public and much wanton damage is done.

Watercourses

Maesyffynnon and "Jubilee" ditches have been maintained in a clear and clean condition. It is unfortunate that the pipe under the Railway lines from Maesyffynnon is smaller in diameter than the surface sewer discharging into the ditch. This causes waterlogging of adjacent land in times of very heavy rain.

Further work of cleaning up Maesyffynnon ditch is now suspended until a block of buildings found to be discharging sewage into the surface sewer are re-connected to the foul sewer.

Following complaints of flooding of land from Purbeck Terrace to Sandy Lane, the ditch draining this land was cleaned by the riparion owners at the request of the Council.

Licensed Premises

All premises requiring a Magistrates licence, such as Clubs, Licensed Houses, Ballrooms, Cinemas, etc., inspected during the year, and a report was presented to the Licensing Justices at the Brewster Sessions,

I am pleased to say that I did not have to report adversely on any of these premises.

HOUSING

Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year :—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 123

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... 141

(2) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation 3

(3) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... 91

2 Remedy of defects during the year without Service of formal Notices :—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers 84

3 Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—

(A) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act 1936:

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs 0

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—

(a) By owners 0

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners 0

(B) Proceedings under Public Health Acts

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 0

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—

(a) By owners 0

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners 0

(C) Proceedings under Sections 11 & 13 of the Housing Act, 1936

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made 0

(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders 0

(D) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing orders were made 0

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit 0

4. Housing Act, 1936 (*Overcrowding*)

(a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year 2

(2) Number of families dwelling therein ... 3

(3) Number of persons dwelling therein ... 24

(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year 0

(c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year 4

(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases ... 31

(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding ... ... nil

(e) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report ... nil

Houses owned by the Local Authority

The following is a list of properties owned by the local Council.

Caradoc Terrace	...	15	houses
Dawson Park	...	12	,,
Bryn Melyd Road	...	22	,,
Isfryn Road	...	22	,,
Bryn Rhosyn	...	174	,,
Maes Hendre	...	24	,,

In conclusion of my report, may I express my appreciation for the help and many kindnesses shown by the Chairman and members of the Health Committee Dr. R. Rhydwen, Medical Officer of Health, Mr. J. Lloyd Hughes, Clerk to the Council, the indoor and outdoor staff.

I. WYNN JONES,

Sanitary Inspector.

CLIMATOLOGY OF PRESTATYN

Temperature

Highest Temperature	... 89° on 6th June
Lowest Temperature	24° on 27th January
Number of days below freezing point ...	36 days

Sunshine

Total for the year	1402 4 hours
Highest Monthly Total	(June) 233.5 hours
Lowest Monthly Total	(December) 26.1 hours

Rainfall

Total for the year	29.18 inches
Above normal	.78 inches
Wettest Month	(September) 4.06 inches
Driest Month	(January) 0.59 inches

Visibility

Fog occurred on 10 days.

Wind

Gales of over 48 m.p h. ... ... — ...	Nil